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GUIDE TO BETTER ENGLISH

英语口语导航



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Guide to Better English

英语口语导航

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内 容 简 介

本书根据最新颁布的《大学英语课程教学要求》并结合教学工作评价中将“外语口头交流能力”列为重要评价指标的新形势精心编写而成。本书由简短对话和话题两大部分组成,内容涵盖了学习、生活、家庭、社会、文化、环境、国防等方面诸多相关话题。为便于学生练习口语,本书配有 MP3 格式的听力光盘一张。

本书既可作为高校非英语专业学生的英语口语教材,也可供其他英语口语学习者使用。

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前 言

《英语口语导航》是为非英语专业学生编写的一本实用性很强的英语口语强化训练手册。

本书正文由 Part A 和 Part B 两大部分构成，每部分 4 节，每节 10 个话题，内容与学生的日常学习、生活、娱乐等方面密切相关，并涵盖了《新编大学英语》1~4 册所涉及的所有话题。Part A 为简短对话形式，共 462 组问答。Part B 为观点陈述形式。两个部分既各成体系，又相互关联、互为补充。教师可根据需要，从中选用相应的内容，单独或配套使用。

附录部分包括相关军语及相关词语、热点问题简述、成语以及常用口语表达用语等内容，为本书增添了军事特色、时代气息和实用性。

本书由张兰琴、刘庆雪、岳瑛、侯松山、吴静静、杨润秀、王玉峰、刘涛刚、吴军妍、刘凤稳、刘璇、张莹编写，外籍教师 Joshua David Martin 对文字部分进行了审阅和修改，Stephen Matthew Brown 和 Samantha Keung 为本书录了音，刘涛刚和刘凤稳对录音进行了后期制作。

由于时间仓促，书中难免有疏漏或不妥之处，敬请广大读者不吝赐教。

编 者

2008 年 10 月

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Part A

Questions and Answers

Section I

1. Introduction

1) What's your name, please?

—My name is Wang Lizhi.

2) How old are you?

—I'm nineteen years old.

3) What is your major?

—My major is electronic engineering.

4) Which grade are you in?

—I am a freshman.

5) Where are you from?

—I am from Sichuan. My parents live in Sichuan.

6) Are you a Party member or a League member?

—I'm a Party member. I joined the Party when I was in middle school. I was the class monitor at that time.

7) Can you tell us something about your personality?

—Generally speaking, I am the extroverted or outgoing type, quite humorous, open-minded, helpful and friendly.

8) Do you have any hobbies?

—Yes. My hobbies are sports-related. I love playing basketball and jogging. My good health owes a lot to my practice of sports.

9) What do you think of your hometown?

—My hometown is Chengdu, the capital city of Sichuan

Province. The weather there is mild. The temperature there usually stays about 20℃ in the summer and 10℃ in the winter. It rains a lot, which is very good for crops. That's why people call it Nature's Storehouse. It is noted for its variety of food and leisurely way of life. I think it's a good place to live in.

10) Could you please give us a brief introduction of yourself?

—My name is Wang Li. I was born in 1988. I come from Shandong Province. My father is a math teacher in a middle school. He loves and cares for each of his students more than he does to me. Many of his students have graduated from colleges and universities and they still remember my father.

I'm very proud of him. My mother is a farmer. She works on farm while keeping our family. My mother is a traditional Chinese woman. She gives both my dad and me a lot of support and help. Without my mom, my dad and I couldn't have achieved so much. I'm in my third year at college now. My major is psychology, which is a promising science. It has a wide range of applications. I have a lot of hobbies, among which swimming is my favorite. My motto (座右铭) is "God helps those who help themselves." I believe all my dreams will come true as long as I work hard.

2. My Family

1) How many people are there in your family?

—Five. There are five people in my family: my parents, my grandparents and I. I am the only child of my family. You know the family planning policy of our country is "one child per couple".

2) What do your parents do?

—My father is an engineer in a car factory. My mother is a

teacher of physics in a local middle school. They are still working. I love them very much.

- 3) If you were asked to describe your father in one or two sentences, what would you say?

—My father is very quiet and works hard all day, but he is a great father, a great husband and a great son with a strong sense of responsibility.

- 4) How important are your parents to you?

—My parents are very important to me, because they are always there. When I'm happy, they are there. When I'm sad, they are there. When I'm in a difficult situation, they are there. They are a part of my life. I can not do without them. I can always turn to them whenever I have problems. So they are very very important for me. When they are old, I will help them as they helped me.

- 5) What is the deciding factor that keeps your family a good place that is so warm and so comfortable?

—I think it's the traditional values we all cherish. Our family is a big one. My grandparents have been living with us since I was a child. They are very kind and considerate. My parents never fight like some other couples. They have great respect for their parents as I do for mine. When there is a difficulty, all of us will work together like some sort of a stronghold. That is what a family is for.

- 6) What's your idea of a "family"?

—The American writer Emerson once said: "Family is such a place that three times a day our hunger is satisfied and thousands of times a day our soul may be comforted." I fully agree with him. Family actually is a place that nowhere else in the world can you feel so warm, so comfortable, so casual and

so peaceful. It is a place that refuses loneliness and strangeness. It is a place that always makes people feel relaxed and close.

7) What do you think of the “one child per couple” policy?

—I think it's absolutely necessary to have such a family planning (计划生育) policy in our country as we already have so many people. If we don't practice birth control and leave our population increasing out of control, the development of our economy will be greatly hindered and our living standard will hardly be improved. So I'm in favor of this policy.

8) Do you think, in a family, father and mother should take equal responsibility?

—Certainly. In old times, the father in a family usually played a dominant role; in modern times it is not the case. Father and mother usually share equal rights and duties in the family. Responsibility includes both rights and duties.

9) Many men think that when a woman is married, she should stay at home doing house chores and taking care of her husband and her children. Do you agree?

—No, I don't agree with that. Women not only belong to the family but also to society, just as men do. Most important of all, she belongs to herself first, then to the family, and finally she should belong to society. A modern woman should keep up with the times, be well-informed and knowledgeable. She should not only care about herself and her family, but also the world.

10) What do you think of DINK (Double Income, No Kids) families?

—In my opinion, everybody has the right to choose his or her own way of life. If DINK families prefer that kind of lifestyle,

that's OK. As for me, I won't live that way. A family with no children is not complete. The couple will never know the joy of bringing up children.

- 11) Why do you think so many young people nowadays would like to have a DINK family?

—First of all, modern people are suffering from a lot of pressure. They simply do not want their children to undergo their suffering again. Secondly, they may just like this two-people way of life. They can go anywhere any time without worrying about their kids. They can live a casual, totally free life.

3. My Study

- 1) What subjects are you studying now in college?

—Now we are studying advanced mathematics, the theory of probability, physics, mechanics, philosophy, English, and so on.

- 2) Which subject do you like best? And why?

—Of all the subjects we are studying now, I like English best because English is so important for us.

- 3) How long have you been studying English?

—I have been studying English for about 12 years.

- 4) Do you find it easy or difficult to learn English? Why?

—I find it very difficult to learn English because the English pronunciation is much different from that of Chinese, there are so many new words to remember and the English grammar is so complicated. I spent a lot of time reciting new words, reading the texts and doing the exercises, but I made little progress. I feel disappointed sometimes. Yet, I don't want to give up. I believe I can find a way to learn it well as long as I don't give up.

- 5) Do you have problems in learning English? If so, what are they?
—Yes. I have problems in learning English. For instance, I have difficulties in listening, speaking and writing. But my reading is OK, I think.
- 6) How do you solve these problems?
—My English teachers ask me to spend more time listening, speaking and writing. And I will do as they ask me to do.
- 7) Do you think study ends with a school graduation? Why or why not?
—I think study never ends with a school graduation. That is also true of English study. Many people say that English study is a time-consuming process, that is, it takes a lot of time. As far as I'm concerned, I've been studying English for about twelve years now, but my English is still not good enough. I'm afraid I'll have to keep on studying English all my life!
- 8) Do you listen to or watch programs in English? What are they?
—Yes. Sometimes I listen to VOA or BBC or Radio Beijing. And sometimes I watch the English programs of Channel 9 on CCTV. Some of the English programs are getting more and more interesting, including the weather forecast.
- 9) Are you a hard-working student at school?
—Yes, I think so. Otherwise I might have lost the opportunity to go to college and I would have no chance to take part in this oral English test right here, right now.
- 10) What do you hate most about your school?
—What I hate most about our school is that we students are asked to pass CET, Band 4. If we fail, it is very likely that we won't be able to get the bachelor's degree!
- 11) When we study a language, what do we usually learn? Do you have any suggestions for foreign language learners according to

your experience?

—We usually learn words, sentences, pronunciation, grammar, etc. But in order to learn a language, according to my experience, we should have cultural awareness in addition to the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing.

- 12) When learning a foreign language, do you think it is only necessary to learn spoken and written language?

—I don't think so. Gestures and other body movements are an integral parts of the means of communication for us humans. It is not only necessary for us to learn the spoken and written language, but also the gestures and body movements of the people who speak the language. When we learn our mother tongue, we imitate our parents and relatives and friends. When we learn a foreign language, we have to observe native speakers who speak that language as their mother tongue, and we also have to learn from books about the subject.

4. Our College

- 1) What's the name of your college?

—Our college is called the Mechanical Engineering College.

- 2) Where is it situated?

—It's situated in the center of this city, somewhere near the railway station.

- 3) What kind of college does it belong to?

—It is one of the key colleges of our country, focusing on engineering. Military science, management and philosophy are also taught in this college.

- 4) Does it have a long history?

—Its history can date back to 1947, but it was reconstructed in Shijiazhuang in 1974. Now it is an institute of college education. So far, more than 40,000 students have graduated